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TAMMY NEAL
... Quail Hollow ninth grader

Tammy Neal

Helping Others Has Become Way Of Life For Our Beauty

By Teresa Simmons
Post Staff Writer
The old saying, "Kindness is the world's greatest unused capital," may apply to others, but our beauty, Tammy Neal, does not fit into such a category.

As a ninth grader at Quail Hollow, Neal finds that helping others has become a way of life for her. There are many ways one can prepare himself or herself to aid others, but Neal has found encouragement at her church, Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church.

There, she is a member of the Youth Meeting Club. They discuss God and attend conventions for informative sessions. She is also a member of the Young People's Choir of the church. Rev. H.S. Diggs is her pastor.

At school, she is a member of the choir as well. Her favorite singing groups include the spiritual singers, The Hawkins Family, and DeBarge.

Neal, who sings alto, would like to become a professional singer. She also possesses a special sense for the arts. Her special gift of creativeness is enhanced, she expressed, by "good movies, listening to music and expressing myself through singing."

Elizabeth Neal is our beauty's guardian. "She is also my favorite person. She influences me to do the right things. Because of her, I feel that I am considered where others are concerned."

Her concerns range from the spiritual to the more down-to-earth problems facing mankind. "For instance," she remarked, "I'm concerned about jobs for people. I know that society has to advance, but when computers are placed to accomplish a job a person has been doing for many years,

then that person should be guaranteed another job."

Concern for others also stems from the work Neal is responsible for in her church position. As secretary-treasurer of the Mt. Peace Missionary Association, she received a special award for her dedication and superb performance.

Much emphasis is placed on financial success in our capitalistic society. But it is people like Neal who truly have the gift of life. She has captured the gift of caring for others.

State Tackling Problems In Public Education

By Governor Jim Hunt
Special To The Post
The North Carolina Commission on Education for Economic Growth clearly is moving toward making recommendations for major reforms in the public schools. But the state is not waiting for that report to take one step that has special significance.

This week, for the first time, a writing test will be added to the annual achievement test that is given to sixth and ninth graders - about 172,000 students in North Carolina. This is the first time our students have been given a standard, statewide test of their writing skills. The next step will be to test 10th graders in a trial competency test in 1985, with an addition of writing to the minimum competency test in 1986.

In the test, students will write a composition that will be graded on both the quality of composition and on grammar by at least two different scorers.

In my view, teaching the basics is one of the key areas that the Commission on Education for Economic Growth should address.

Two others are getting and keeping good teachers and enforcing school discipline.

D.G. Martin's Campaign Contributions Near \$40,000

By Adam Bernstein
Special To The Post
With almost \$40,000 in contributions raised in just the first several weeks of his Congressional campaign, D. G. Martin is understandably pleased and enthusiastic.

"This very positive early result makes me confident that we will have the support necessary to conduct a winning campaign," said Martin, a Democratic candidate for the 9th District Congressional seat being vacated by Representative Jim Martin.

He said he was encouraged by the figure \$39,845 which he sees as "tangible evidence of a large commitment to my candidacy."

The total came in the 1983 year-end report of cam-

AFCC Seeks Executive Director

The Afro-American Cultural Center is seeking an executive director.

The director must have strong managerial and administrative skills to oversee and conduct daily operations. The non-profit organization requires expertise in public relations, planning, budgeting, program and curriculum development and proposal writing.

Knowledge is expected in the Arts, Afro-American Arts and Black History. A bachelor of arts degree is also required and-or two to four years related experience. The minimum salary is \$18,000.

Dr. Herman Thomas informed the closing date for applications is February 15. All resumes and letters should be forwarded to Dr. Thomas at 5913 Craftsbury Drive, Charlotte, N.C. 28215.

The Afro-American Cultural Center is located within Spirit Square, 110 E. Seventh Street.

Considered a museum and exhibition center, the Afro-American Cultural Center preserves black history and shares black culture with the community through art exhibitions, dance, drama and music performances.

Other significant facets of the Afro-American Cultural Center include children's programs and an annual Afro-American Cultural festival.



Michael Todd
.....District Court judge

Todd Says: Judges Are Elected On Proven Ability

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer
For the past four and one-half years, Judge Michael Todd has served in the 28th Judicial District.

Describing his job as a district judge, Todd stated he enjoys it because he's fair, competent and experienced. He announced about two weeks ago he will seek reelection as district judge.

The native of Charlotte and graduate of Myers Park High School explained a district judge doesn't run for office on issues as most politicians claim to do. "We (judges) are generally

elected on our proven ability of serving as a dedicated and fair judge," Todd pointed out. "I've sat on the bench for nearly five years, and the consensus is that I've dealt with cases fairly all that time."

Whether politically-oriented or simply personal concerns, Todd outlined some factors which he would like to see affected in the court system. First, he would like to see the courts receive more money to employ more people who can make more cases move swifter, yet receive fair attention.

"I have to wonder sometimes if an individual is receiving deserved time in court, or if the courts are rushing a decision to move on to the next case," Todd expressed.

Todd also wants to see a deferment process implemented in the court system which would prevent minor traffic offenses, larcenies, etc., for ever entering district court. The first district judge in the state to try prosecutors under the new DWI law, Todd also received many of the new loitering for purpose of prostitution laws.

Though the penalty is stiffer, Todd stated it's more difficult to prove a person is loitering for purpose of prostitution rather than catching the criminal actually committing an act of prostitution.

The graduate of Duke University and Vanderbilt Law School, considers his job most rewarding when he's satisfied he's made the right decision in custody cases. "Knowing that I have been responsible for a child growing up

Teachers Take Lead In Combating Problems

Special To The Post

Washington, D.C. - America's public schools aren't a "blackboard jungle," and the Reagan Administration's proposed campaign on discipline-violence is based upon research some nine years old, Mary Hatwood Futrell, president of the National Education Association (NEA), told members of the Capitol Press Club meeting here.

"Trying to paint a picture that most schools have severe discipline or violence problems is a gross exaggeration," said Futrell. "The research the Reagan Administration is using was done in 1975. Our research shows that discipline-violence problems have been declining over the last three or four years. In 1979, over 74 percent of teachers said discipline problems impaired their effectiveness to teach. In 1983, the figure had dropped to 45 percent."

Futrell emphasized that the rights of children to learn in an orderly classroom are paramount.

"An unruly student must not be permitted to disrupt the learning process for 20 to 30 others," she said.

"I urge the media and citizens to visit classrooms to see for themselves what is going on in the public schools. Problems will be found. Where there are problems, strong action must be taken. But you'll also find order in our schools and learning taking place," Futrell added.

"The White House hype is nothing more than an attempt to create a political gimmick at the start of a presidential campaign."

Futrell said that teachers more than anyone else have been aware of the discipline problem and have taken the lead in launching programs to combat it. She traced NEA's concern back to a 1977 national conference that spoke to the root causes of both violence and discipline problems in the nation's schools.

The Reagan Administration has been talking about discipline and violence problems in schools in the same breath, Futrell pointed out.

"The 1983 Gallup Poll on the Public's Attitude Toward Public Schools never mentions violence," Futrell noted. "The poll does list discipline as the top public concern, but it also says that the root problem of discipline is in the home. Over 72 percent of those polled said that lack of discipline in the home is the major cause of discipline problems at school."

added, "I find this publicity ploy interesting. Here is an Administration that has proposed cuts in education and sees no federal responsibility for programs in remedial math, science and reading. Yet, this same Administration proposes a federal role for discipline and violence."

"The Reagan Administration ignores its own 1983 'Nation at Risk' report, which proposed many ideas to achieve excellence in classrooms but uses 1975 research to propose a federal role in the nation's schools," Futrell concluded.

George Wallace
.....M-WBE coordinator

M/WBE Schedules Quarterly Conference

On Saturday, February 4, at McDonald's Cafeteria from 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., George Wallace, Minority Women Business Enterprises coordinator of the Community Relations Committee, has spearheaded a quarterly conference.

The quarterly conference is designed to brief minority contractors, suppliers and vendors of upcoming city construction projects and will meet in quarterly sessions. All M-WBE are urged to attend.

Great Decisions

Great Decisions Discussion Groups will be held each Tuesday, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m., February 7 through March 6 at the YWCA Park Road Center.

Topics include "USSR Under Andropov," "U.S. Security and World Peace," "China & the U.S.," "South Africa" and other issues of interest. Cost is \$10 for the series. Coffee and tea will be served. For further information contact Donna Arrington, Creative Learning Director, 525-5770, 9 to 5 week-days.

ARTICLE-TALK



Happiness is a place between too little and too much.

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See FRANKLY Futrell